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For Immediate Release

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County Clerk Advises Travelers of New Border Regulations

Saratoga County Clerk Kathy Marchione is advising travelers that, effective June 1, 2009, people will be required to produce a document that proves you are a U. S. citizen in order to get back into the United States. This new requirement is part of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI). Beginning in June, all persons taking a trip across land and sea borders to and from the United States to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean will be required to produce a passport or other federally-approved travel document.

In response to the need for these new documents, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) began issuing an economical Enhanced Driver License (EDL) in September, 2008. This Enhanced Driver License has been approved as proof of citizenship and as an alternative to a passport for land and sea border crossings to and from the United States to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean. County Clerk Marchione said that an Enhanced Driver License can be obtained from any of the 3 Saratoga County Department of Motor Vehicles offices with proof of citizenship, two proofs of NYS residency and additional proofs of identity such as a birth certificate and driver's license. Enhanced Driver License cost \$30 more than a driver license and are valid for up to eight years as a driver license and 10 years as a non-driver ID. An Enhanced Driver License cannot be used for air travel between the U.S. and other countries but can be used a proof for domestic air travel.

County Clerk Marchione reminds county residents that appointments may be made for transactions in all Saratoga County Department of Motor Vehicles offices. To make an appointment for obtaining an Enhanced Driver License or for other transactions, simply call the Department of Motor Vehicles office of your choice. Appointments at Clifton Park can be made by calling 383-2480, Wilton at 584-7403 and Ballston Spa at 885-2227.